

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT 18 Infantry Regiment

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By: 24

1. The Third Yugoslav Army has its headquarters at Nis with three unspecified divisions situated at Zajecar, Leskovac and Nis.* The 18 Infantry Regiment of Third Army is also located at Nis and is commanded by Lt. Colonel Nikola Zrnica. Included under the latter's command are the following:

1 Battalion
(Headquarters at Nis)

Major Simo Kotur, Commanding
Officer.

Captain Nikola Zaric, Political
Officer.

3 Company, 1 Battalion
(Headquarters at Nis)

1/Lt. Dusan BSzickovic,
Commanding Officer

2 Platoon, 3 Company, 1 Battalion,
(Headquarters at Nis)

2/Et. Milan Stambulic,
Commanding Officer.

2. The 1 Battalion of 18 Infantry Regiment is a training battalion for reserve non-commissioned officers. Approximately 400 conscripts, drafted for three year service, are assigned to the battalion which conducts a ten-month training and lecture program. Instruction includes the following:

Topography	-	Instructor, 2/Lt. M. Stambulic
Use of arms	-	Instructor, 2/Lt. M. Stambulic
Tactics	-	Instructor, 2/Lt. M. Stambulic
Political Lectures	-	Instructor, Captain S. Zaric
Mathematics	-	Instructor, 1/Lt. D. Bozickovic
Chemical Warfare Defense (P.K.Z.)	-	An engineer, name unknown

At the termination of the ten-month training period the men are required to pass an examination to obtain the rank of Second Sergeant. Graduates are assigned to various Third Army units.

3. During 1 Battalion's training period the Political Commissar advises and persuades personnel to join the Yugoslav Communist Party. Of the 400 men who graduated in October 1950 from the training course, approximately 250 became Party members.

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Comment: It is possible that informant is confusing the term "Third Military District" with "Third Army". However, your attention is called to [REDACTED] which reported a special military Headquarters at Nis commanding the First, Third and Fifth Armies.

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